21. The method of claim 20 wherein said S. erythraea mutant is mutant A34.

Please cancel claim 22.

- 23. (Twice amended) The method of claim 20 wherein said macrolactone polyketide is a 14-member macrolactone polyketide.
- 24. (Twice amended) The method of claim 23 wherein said 14-member macrolactone polyketide is 14-propyl 6-dEB (Formula 6 as depicted in Figure 3) or 14-desmethyl-14-phenyl 6-dEB (Formula 7 as depicted in Figure 3).

In the Abstract:

Please replace the abstract with the following:

--The invention describes methods to disarm native ketosynthase (KS) starter units in polyketide synthase (PKS) gene clusters to facilitate the feeding of diketide substrates to produce polyketides. The invention also describes conversion of macrolactones to the corresponding antibiotics using *S. erythraea* to perform tailoring reactions.--